

Shooting ties officer to 2nd death

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Seven in drug squad at scene refuse to talk

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A Metro officer involved in the latest fatal police shooting also shot a man to death four years ago.

Detective Constable Rick Shank, 27, is one of two drug squad officers who fired "several shots" from their semi-automatic pistols, killing Hugh George Dawson, 31, in Scarborough Sunday night. The other officer was Detective Rajeev Sukurmaran, 29.

The two, along with five other drug squad officers who witnessed the incident, have refused so far to speak with investigators.

On April 20, 1993, Shank, then a uniformed patrol officer at 41 Division in Scarborough, shot 20-year-old Ian Clifford Coley to death. Shank was cleared of any wrongdoing.

An autopsy is to be performed today on Dawson, a father of two, killed during what Metro police termed "a controlled arrest."

It happened at 8:50 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of Kennedy and Danforth Rds. in Scarborough.

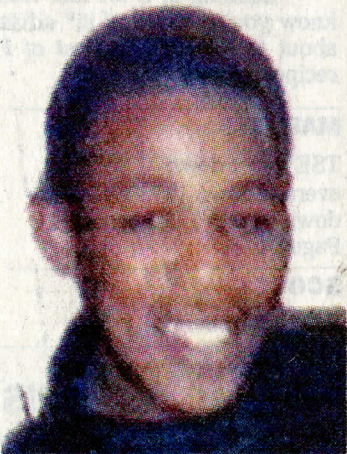
It was the second fatal shooting this year by Metro police officers. Edmund Yu, 35, was killed on a Toronto Transit Commission bus at Spadina Ave. and Queen's Quay W. on Feb. 20.

The special investigation unit (SIU) probes all incidents involving the police where bodily harm or death occur. SIU director Andre Marin said yesterday it was unusual for the officers not to speak with the SIU.

"They have all been asked, they have all declined."



RICK SHANK: Officer was cleared of wrongdoing in 1993 police shooting.



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HUGH DAWSON: Father of two killed in arrest for alleged drug offences.

But Harry Black, lawyer for Shank and Sukurmaran, said the two officers had not refused to speak with investigators.

"I made it very clear that they were not saying no, but were not going to talk to them that night (Sunday)," Black said.

After the 1993 shooting, Shank refused to speak with in-

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